Norman structure, with its Norman north porch, and later additions, was the great feature of the day. It is of very large size (according to Mr. Pettit, who read a very full description of it at one of the evening meetings, 307 feet long), and is full of interest. The circular windows in the Norman clerestory; a *cable* moulding of enormous size round the main arches at the intersection of the cross, and some of the windows in the transept; the general boldness of the nave, and the peculiar zig-zag decoration which fills the gables of the transept externally, are particularly curious. The chancel is a fine specimen of Early English, thoroughly restored a few years since, and forms a striking contrast with the Norman work of the nave,—the first light and elegant, with every support divided to the utmost, and all pointing upwards, the latter massive and grand.

The chapter-house is approached by a short cloister, and the double archway which opens into it from the latter is one of the most exquisite productions of mediæval skill existing. The foliage which adorns it is all natural rather than conventional, and, crisp and beautiful, looks, excepting in some few places where it has entirely disappeared, as if that moment gathered. The Purbeck shafts are for the most part much decayed.

In the ruins of the archbishop's palace, a mediæval *necessarium* (?) a series of seats in niches around a central column, was looked at with curiosity.

From Southwell the members went to *Wollaton Hall*, the seat of Lord Middleton, one of those noble mansions which the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods left as their mark and legacy to England. The entrance to the park is about two miles from Nottingham, and the drive through the park to the house perhaps half a mile more. The appearance of the hall at a short distance from it, with its varied outline, produced by the large central tower, and four square towers, one at each angle, is very fine. The details are not so good; and internally, with the exception of the hall, which is a noble apartment, and has one of the last of the open roofs, there is little which calls for comment; unless it be the curious fact, shewn by a plan of the timbers in the principal floor in the possession of his lordship, that there is not one thorough-beam,—or beam running from wall to wall: they are all framed one into another.

Wollaton Hall is the work of Robert and Huntingdon Smithson, father and son. Dalloway states that the epitaph of Robert Smithson, who is said to have died in 1614, aged 79, is in Wollaton Church, and styles him, "Architector or surveyor unto the most worthy house of Wollaton, with divers others of great account." In Bolsover Church, according to the same writer, there is this memorial of the son, "Huntingdon Smithson, architect, ob. 1648." There is a plan and a slight elevation of Wollaton in the volume of designs by John Thorpe, now in the Soane museum, which has led to the belief that Thorpe was consulted upon it, or was in some other way connected with the building. An inscription on the entrance front says:—*Inchoatæ*, 1580—1588.

At a meeting of the architectural section on the following morning, Saturday, a paper by Mr. Lewin, of Boston, on

HECKINGTON CHURCH,

celebrated for the "sepulchre" it contains, was read. We give the following portion of it:—"From the days of Gough and Rickman, Heckington Church has been celebrated amongst archæologists as an edifice whose noble proportions, admirable architecture, and curious and scarce monuments, render it one of the most worthy and interesting of our village churches. There is a tradition connected with this church, that the foundations were laid in the year 1101, and the whole of the edifice completed by the end of the year 1104, and that the total cost of the same was 433*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*; but it is quite certain that such tradition cannot have been connected with the present structure, as the architecture sufficiently proves it not to have been erected until two centuries after, Heckington being a complete and perfect specimen of decorated Gothic. The church consists of a spire steeple at the west end, a south porch, a nave with north and south aisles, north and south transepts, and a chancel. The paper entered into an elaborate description of the exterior, the whole of the stone-work of which was stated to be in very good condition, the sharpness and definition of the carved work being still preserved, with all the beauty of design and boldness of execution of the original hand of the sculptor, after a lapse of full 500 years. The interior effect of the church, notwithstanding the loss of its ancient wood-work, is still very imposing; its handsome nave, with its pointed arches and fine clerestory—its capacious aisles, with their array of three-lighted windows—its lofty transepts, whose side lights deceive the judgment—and its imposing chancel, full of sculptural decorations—still amply repay the visit of the archæologist.

The holy sepulchre has celebrated Heckington throughout the kingdom, and caused this secluded village to be noticed and mentioned in every work relating to this section of archæology. It is situated in the north wall of the chancel, and is in some parts much mutilated. In height it is about 10 feet, in breadth about 4 feet 6 inches, and is one mass of sculpture. The elevation of it is divided into two heights by a ledge or cornice; the lower division is divided by pentagonal buttresses into four divisions, the centre buttress finishing in a corbel head under the ledge; each of these compartments have trefoiled pediments springing from corbel heads, with crockets and finials: the spandrels between the pediments and pinnacles are embossed with foliated sculpture. Under each of these pediments are figures of soldiers reclining in a sleeping attitude; under the ledge is an enriched cornice, and above it the sepulchre is divided by the buttresses into three divisions,—the principal or centre division containing the tomb part of the sepulchre. This is a hollow space; the plan of it, from the face of the sepulchre, is about 2 feet 8 inches square, with a pyramidal head to the front; on each side of this are angels watching. Above, the opening is ornamented with a moulded pediment, in which is carved the ball-flower, with crockets finishing in a boldly-carved finial, which serves as a bracket for the figure of Christ rising from the tomb. This figure has been a splendid example of ancient sculpture. On each side, carved in the spandrels, are angels with censors looking up and worshipping: above these figures, springing from corbel heads, is another canopy highly ornamented. On each side, and supporting this centre compartment of the sepulchre, are trefoiled pediments with labels crocketed and finialed; under these are angels with the figures of the Marys carrying spices for embalming the body; above the pediments are representations of flying buttresses supporting the centre division. These buttresses are ornamented with a parapet springing from corbel heads; and the cornice is enriched with the ball-flower. Above are pinnacles finishing with enriched pediments and crocketed heads; the ground of the sepulchre, between the pinnacles, is covered with embossed foliage, and the top is crowned with a handsome cornice, containing figures with musical instruments. The whole of the decorations of this interesting monument are most worthy of the attention of the archæologist, the foliage and figures being beautifully and correctly sculptured. It has, however, suffered exceedingly from mutilations."

At the evening meeting on the same day, after several interesting papers had been read, particularly one by the Rev. F. C. Massingberd, on the names of some places in the city, especially "the Grecian Stairs," and for which we may hereafter find room, Lord Northampton introduced Mr. Britton to the meeting.

Mr. Britton said, to use his own words,—I come before you on the present occasion under some degree of embarrassment—I come before you as an antiquary who has devoted more than half a century in illustrating, and I hope describing faithfully and putting in a new point of view, the architectural antiquities of our famous and wonderful island. I come before you also at the express desire of the committee and secretaries of this respectable institution to show you that although old and worn out in the cause of literature and art. I have some feeling remaining—a great deal of love—a great deal of veneration for cathedral architecture—for literature—for every branch of archæological research; and so long as I live I hope to be enabled to prosecute the same studies—to impart to the rising generations some of the feelings which have prompted me in the pursuits in which I have been engaged more than half a century. And when I tell you that while thus engaged I have derived an incessant and progressive amount of gratification—of delight—I hope that the younger portion of the audience will give me credit, and believe that in those pursuits, if by accident they should be led to follow in my footsteps—to engage in the same pursuits—they will, like myself, derive an endless amount of amusement wherever they go. Had I not been devoted to those pursuits myself in the early part of my life, I should never have had the pleasure—the profit—the self-satisfaction which I now enjoy in my old age. And I cannot give you a more satisfactory proof of the influence and effect of those pursuits, and the gratification which I feel in my old age, than by telling you that during the last few months, when on a sick bed, I felt more delight in looking round my room and seeing drawings of the various archæological beauties of the country—I felt more delight in that than almost anything; and when my faculties were sufficiently restored I resorted to my library, and there the reminiscences of self-satisfaction on a sick-bed were so delightful that I felt—so long as the faculties of mind and eye should last—that I should never know what the world call *ennui*. I came here with the intention of saying something about the various castles which have been erected in this country, first for protection and afterwards for domestic purposes—I thought and believed that the subject was calculated to afford a good deal of amusement and information to the young student; but I am sorry to tell you that I gave the little paper which I had prepared on the subject to a friend, who undertook to read it for me, and who has not yet returned from the pleasant excursion of the day. I cannot but revert with gratification to my visit to this interesting and extraordinary city on the present occasion. My last visit here was between forty and fifty years ago, when such a science as archæology—the very name itself—was totally unknown; now, however, it is understood, the science is pursued with avidity, and must have a highly beneficial effect upon the country. I cannot forget that, during my first visit here, I was introduced to my estimable and learned friend Mr. Willson: when I first saw him he was working in the cathedral, and from that time to the present we have kept up a literary intercourse, particularly as regards architectural antiquities.

Mr. Britton then paid some well-deserved compliments to Professor Willis, and said it gratified him to find his own opinion, expressed long ago, that Lincoln Minster stood pre-eminent amongst the cathedrals of our isle, was confirmed by Mr. Willis.

Lord Northampton afterwards made a very interesting address, in the absence of the paper; and when the member to whom the paper had been confided rushed into the hall about 10 o'clock at night, full of confusion, he heard with no small amount of satisfaction that the evening had been passed as pleasantly without the paper as if it had been duly forthcoming.

The trip which had detained all the members so late, included Tattershall Castle and Church; Kirkstead Chapel, and Boston Church; but we cannot now devote more space to this subject, and must therefore postpone our remarks.

A supplementary excursion to Temple Bruer,* complimentary votes to those gen-

* A local work says of Temple Bruer:—"Temple Brewer, or Temple Bruern, is an extra-parochial district, situated at the distance of six miles northward from Sleaford. Here is the site of a preceptory, founded previous to the year 1185; and it was first occupied by the Knights Templars, and afterwards by the Hospitallers. The church is said to have been built after the model of that of St. Sepulchre, at Jerusalem. 'There be great and waste buildinges,' says Leland, 'but rude at this place, and the este end of the temple is made *opere circulari de more*.' At present only a few vaults and the tower of the church are left. The latter is a massive quadrangular building, and is accessible to the top by a winding stone staircase. The lower part, used by the occupier of an adjacent farm-house, is nearly entire; it has a window with a double-pointed arch, and the entrance is by a receding circular-headed doorway. The ground is considerably raised or mounded for about 15 yards from this door. In digging the foundation for a stable, east of the town, a few years since, several basement stones for pillars, and one with a shaft of a round indented column, were discovered. West of the town is a hollow, supposed to have

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